

NEWS RELEASE

PLEASE NOTE DATE



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Washington 25, D. C.

October 27, 1962

OX 53201

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY McNAMARA

Today U. S. unarmed reconnaissance aircraft, conducting surveillance of the buildup of the offensive weapons secretly introduced into Cuba by the Soviet Union, were fired upon. Such surveillance operations were in accordance with the resolution adopted on October 23, 1962, by the Organ of Consultation of the Inter-American System under the provisions of the Rio Treaty of 1947. To insure that the nations of the Western Hemisphere continue to be informed of the status of the threat to their security, it is essential that such reconnaissance flights continue. The possibility of further attack on our aircraft and the continued buildup of the offensive weapons systems in Cuba require that we be prepared for any eventuality.

Therefore, tonight, acting under the authority granted me by Executive Order 11658, dated October 23, 1962, I have instructed the Secretary of the Air Force to order to active duty 24 troop carrier squadrons of the Air Force Reserve with their associated support units.

In accordance with Executive Order 11658, the Secretary of Defense today issued instructions for the recall to active duty of 14,214 Air Force Reservists.

The units to be recalled include six aerial port squadrons. These are ground operations squadrons.

UNITS ARE FROM THE FOLLOWING STATES:

Massachusetts, Utah, Ohio, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, New York, California, Oregon, Michigan, Oklahoma, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, State of Washington, New Jersey, South Carolina, North Carolina, Texas.

END